

**Version with Markings to Show Changes Made
(bolding indicates new text / [] indicates deleted text)**

A. In the specification:

- 1.) Page 1, the first paragraph is replaced with:

Cross Reference to Related Applications

This application is a continuation of co-pending International Patent Application Number PCT/GB99/03913, filed November 25, 1999, and claims priority from GB Patent Application Numbers 9914108.7, filed June 18, 1999 and 9825679.5, filed November 25, 1998. The entire disclosures of the prior applications are incorporated herein by reference.

Field of the Invention

This invention relates to a method of modifying components present in cashew nut shell liquid (CNSL), so as to improve its utilisation as a raw material for the formation of polymeric materials, particularly to be used as binders in the formation of composite products.

Background of the Invention

2.) Page 2, -- **Summary of the Invention** -- is added prior to the second full paragraph.

3.) Page 3, -- **Detailed Description of the Invention** -- is added prior to line 1.

4.) Page 11, -- **We claim:** -- is added prior to claim 1.

B. In the claims:

1.) Claims 3, 7-8, 10-11, 15-16 and 19-21 are amended as indicated below.

3. (once amended) A process according to claim 1 [or claim 2] wherein the ozonolysis reaction products are reduced using metals (such as transition metals) in the presence of acid, or reducing sugars, or catalytic hydrogenation, or reduction using a reducing agent selected from iodide (e.g. sodium, potassium, calcium) in the presence of acetic acid; dimethyl sulphide; thiourea; triphenyl phosphine; trimethyl phosphate and pyridine.

7. (once amended) A process according to claim 1 [any one of the preceding claims] wherein the ozonolysis is conducted in a solvent comprising an alcohol, preferably ethanol.

8. (once amended) A process according to claim 1 [any one of the preceding claims] comprising the further step, following the reduction step, of separating phenolic aldehydes and alkyl aldehydes formed during the process.

10. (once amended) A method of converting CNSL aldehydes formed by a process as defined in claim 1 [any one of claims 1 to 8] to an adhesive by treatment with an acidic material in the presence of water to form an emulsion, and thereafter further treating with a base.

11. (once amended) An adhesive composition formed from the product of a process as defined in claim 1 [any one of claims 1 to 8].

15. (once amended) An adhesive according to claim 11 [any one of claims 11 to 14] in the form of a solution or dispersion in water.

16. (once amended) A method of forming a composite from a particulate or fibrous material (*e.g.* a particulate or fibrous organic or inorganic material) comprising treating the material with CNSL aldehydes formed by a process as defined in **claim 1** [any one of claims 1 to 8] and heating to form the composite, optionally with the application of pressure.

19. (once amended) A composite formed from a resin and a particulate and/or fibrous material [(*e.g.* a particulate material and/or fibrous material as defined in any one of claims 16 to 18)] wherein the resin is derived from the product of the ozonolysis and subsequent reductive cleavage of CNSL.

20. (once amended) A composite according to claim 19 wherein the resin is an adhesive as defined in **claim 11** [any one of claims 11 to 15] .

21. (once amended) A composite according to claim 19 [or claim 20] which is a wood particle board.

Remarks

The parent PCT application includes claims 1-21, and all remain pending.

Amendments to Specification

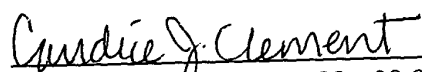
The specification has been amended to include Applicants' claim for foreign priority, to include an Abstract on a separate page, and to include section headings where appropriate.

A clean copy of the pending claims and a copy of the amended paragraphs of the specification with markings to show the changes, are provided herein.

Applicants respectfully request examination and consideration of claims 1-21.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: May 25, 2001


Candice J. Clement, Reg. No. 39,946
Attorney for Applicants
Heslin & Rothenberg, P.C.
5 Columbia Circle
Albany, New York 12203
T: (518) 452-5600 F: (518) 452-5579